

APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10/785,219

PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending. Further examination and reconsideration respectfully are requested.

This amendment is in response to a telephonic interview with Examiner Nguyen.

Telephonic Interview Summary

The Applicants participated in two telephonic interviews with Examiner Nguyen. In an interview on June 8, 2006, Ronald E. Gerber spoke with Examiner Nguyen. In an interview on June 13, 2006, Ronald E. Gerber and David A. Carroll spoke with Examiner Nguyen. The following five items were discussed in those interviews.

(1) The Examiner brought to the attention of the Applicants a reference, U.S. Patent No. 6,035,079.

(2) The Examiner said that claims 22, 23 and 26 are allowable as written.

(3) In discussing claims 1, 2, 8 and 13, agreement was reached that claims 8 and 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, incorporating the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

(4) In discussing claims 17 and 18, agreement was reached that claim 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, incorporating the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

(5) The Examiner remarked that he would like to see more elements incorporated into claim 24 for clarity.

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Claim Amendments

The claims amendments are described for the five items noted above.

(1) No amendments required.

(2) No amendments required.

(3) Claims 1 and 2 have been cancelled.

Claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form, and includes all the limitations of original claims 1 and 2. Claim 8 is unchanged in scope from this amendment.

Dependent claims 3 and 7 are amended to depend from claim 8. Dependent claims 4-6 are not amended.

Claim 13 has been rewritten in independent form, and includes all the limitations of original claims 1 and 2. Claim 13 is unchanged in scope from this amendment.

Dependent claims 14-16 are not amended.

New dependent claims 27-31 are analogous to dependent claims 3-7, but depend from claim 13.

(4) Claim 17 has been cancelled.

Claim 18 has been rewritten in independent form, and includes all the limitations of original claim 17. Claim 18 is unchanged in scope from this amendment.

Dependent claims 19-21 are not amended.

(5) Claim 24 is amended to incorporate the structural limitations of original claim 13.

Dependent claim 25 is not amended.

No new matter is added for any of these amendments.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and the timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance. If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact the undersigned at (952) 253-4114.

Respectfully submitted,

Altera Law Group, LLC
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Date: June 20, 2006

By:



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REG/DHC/mar